

U.S. Department of Justice

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August 17, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

LUZERNE COUNTY MAN CHARGED WITH RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that a 41-year-old Luzerne County resident was indicted by a federal grand jury today for receiving and distributing child pornography.

According to United States Attorney Peter J. Smith, the grand jury alleges that William Warman, Jr., of Luzerne, Pennsylvania, used a computer to download and distribute images of child pornography between 2008 and May 28, 2010.

The charge against Warman resulted from an investigation by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Lackawanna County and Luzerne County District Attorneys' Offices.

If convicted of the charge, Warman faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a possible maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

U.S. Attorney Smith noted that this case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet,

as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

U.S. Attorney Smith noted that the case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Francis P. Sempa.

An indictment and criminal information is not evidence of guilt but simply a description of the charge made by the United States Attorney against a defendant. A charged defendant is presumed innocent until a jury returns a unanimous finding that the United States has proved the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
